

CELEBRATING

20 years

2006 - 2026

Join us to celebrate  
20 years since the  
**Church  
Refurbishment  
and the opening of  
Wesley's Café**  
**10<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> May**

**WORSHIP**

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 10.30  
Rev Dr Neil Richardson  
*(who led service of  
rededication in 2006)*

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 10.30  
Rev Rachel Deigh  
*(Chair of West Midlands  
Methodist District)*

**Wesley's**

For one week only,  
the prices in  
Wesley's Café will go  
back to 2006

**'The story so far'**

An exhibition of photos and  
memorabilia showing the  
refurbishment project.

Also displays from groups  
who regularly use the  
building.

Open all week

Guided tours  
of the building  
available during  
café opening  
hours

**'Chiefly  
Yourselves'**

A variety concert  
featuring people associated  
with the church today

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May  
at 7.30pm**



Ludlow Methodist Church  
Broad Street, Ludlow

**PLEASE NOTE** – Items for Church Notices for next Sunday 17th May to  
**CHRIS GEORGE** Tel: 328319 Email: cdgtorridon@aol.com



The Methodist Church

Church Stretton

IN THE SHROPSHIRE & MARCHES CIRCUIT



**MINISTER**

**REV'D GEORGE HEINZ**

Telephone: 07538480626

Church Website

[www.churchstretton-  
methodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.churchstretton-<br/>methodistchurch.org.uk)

A WARM WELCOME TO YOU ALL IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST OUR  
LORD. IF YOU ARE VISITORS WE TRUST THAT YOUR HOLIDAY WILL BRING  
YOU JOY AND REFRESHMENT OF SPIRIT. PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE &  
FELLOWSHIP IN THE HALL FOLLOWING THIS SERVICE.

**SUNDAY SERVICES**

**SUNDAY 10th MAY 2026**

10.30 am Rev Brian Spencer

**SUNDAY 17th MAY 2026**

10.30 am Mr Mike Hallworth

**WEDNESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

10.00 am to 12.00 Baby & Toddler Group

2.30 pm – 4.00 pm "Cuppa & Chat" – in church hall

## WE ARE ASKED TO PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

### PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES

Barbara & Paul Cotton, Ruth Davies, Janet Edwards, Brian & Chris Faulkner,  
Sally & Chris Fisher, Carol & Chris George, Fiona & Tim Goodwin,  
Christine & Gerry Richardson.

### CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE STRETTONS - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This will be held in the URC Hall on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7.30pm  
All are very welcome.

(Please note the date is not as written on the AGM Reports)

### CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 10th – 16th May 2026

This year, Christian Aid week is supporting mothers in Nairobi, Kenya, who face the devastating reality of urban poverty and a daily struggle to feed their children.

By funding urban farming projects alongside specialist training from their partner, Beacon of Hope, Christian Aid is helping parents to fight food insecurity, grow fresh vegetables in small city spaces and earn an income to support their families.

The envelopes are in the porch to be picked up for delivery. Please sign your name alongside the roads you are able to cover. Please also take a guide to delivery pamphlet and complete the authority collector's badge. Please DO NOT deliver envelopes before the 10th.

If you do not live in the Strettons and wish to donate, there are envelopes on the table as you come into church. Please place your donation inside and place in our offertory plate. Thank you. **Sue & Rob**

### AN INVITATION FROM LUDLOW .....

We are invited by our friends at Ludlow Methodist Church to join them next month in celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening of "Wesley's Café" and the refurbishment of their church premises in Broad Street.

**Please see the poster overleaf** for details of the events to mark this special occasion.

A service conducted by the Chair of the West Midlands Methodist District at 10.30 am on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May will be the conclusion of this week of celebrations.

### Singing the Faith 641

"When circumstances make my life too hard to understand, no doubt or fear, no pain or strife, can snatch me from God's hand." We sang this hymn recently (Sunday 26 April); it's a newish hymn, sung only once before, some ten years ago. On that occasion we sang it to a different tune. Martyrdom, the set tune, is old and little sung so it felt new to some of us! Verse two reads "In valleys where the path is steep, with shadows dark and long, I know the Shepherd leads his sheep – his grace will keep me strong" – words that feed one's faith.

Sometimes by the afternoon I struggle to recall the main theme of the morning service. On the last Sunday in April I had no such problem: everything was centred round the thought of God as the Shepherd of his sheep – three Bible readings, five hymns and a sermon all referred to the Shepherd.

Martin Leckebusch, the author of 641, was born in Leicester in 1962, in a family with Methodist connections. As he has moved around the country he has been attached to Pentecostal, Methodist, Anglican and Baptist churches. He is married with four daughters; a son died in infancy in 1995, so he knows about finding God in "shadows dark and long". He has written around five hundred hymns, over a hundred are paraphrases of psalms. He writes on many different aspects of Christian faith, as demonstrated by the fact that his seven hymns in Singing the Faith are in six different sections of the book.

Some modern hymns give the impression of being written in a hurry with no thought of rhythm or rhyme or whether the meaning is clear and unambiguous. Leckebusch insists that God does not change but language does so he writes in today's English without religious jargon as far as possible. Lines which don't quite scan, he says, may be sung by professional singers but are not good for ordinary congregations, so metre and rhythm are important. Martin Leckerbusch encourages the singing of faith with his well-crafted songs. **R.D.**

Thank you to all who supported and helped in any way with the Much Wenlock Male Voice Choir concert. It was a wonderful evening and we raised just over £400 for our church funds. **Barbara**